

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 925

By Burchett

A RESOLUTION to recognize Dr. William C. Robinson on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of public service; and

WHEREAS, William Robinson is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for thirty-six years with the University of Tennessee (UT) School of Information Sciences ; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Robinson has performed his duties with enthusiasm and humor and has earned the unbridled respect and admiration of the administration, staff, faculty, and students of the School of Information Sciences for the superior quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, William Robinson is a life-long scholar who possesses the knowledge necessary to provide valuable services in the dynamic library and information environment; he began his accumulation of this knowledge by obtaining a bachelor's degree from Claremont Men's College, where he graduated *magna cum laude*, and a master's degree from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. He then earned his master's degree in library science from the University of Southern California and his doctorate degree from the University of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Robinson is a master teacher who has touched an immeasurable number of lives as a mentor to both students and young professors as educators and professionals; and

WHEREAS, William Robinson brought his unparalleled talents and expertise to UT in 1972, and has since served the School of Information Sciences with acumen and alacrity as a professor, Acting Director, and Associate Director; throughout his illustrious tenure, he has shown himself to be a creative and committed educator who has designed, created, and

maintained a large and dynamic course portfolio to better serve his students and the school;
and

WHEREAS, William Robinson has rendered astute service to the University of Tennessee as a distinguished member of the Faculty Senate, Chair of the Faculty Senate Library Committee and Faculty Senate Executive Committee, the University of Tennessee Knoxville Bicentennial Steering Committee, Founder and Coordinator of the Campus Information Studies Interest Group, a member of the Graduate Council, and the Research Council, Chair of the Task Force on Economic Development of the Research Council, and a member of the Editorial Board of The University of Tennessee Press; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Robinson has been a true leader in library education; he wrote and was awarded the IMLS Librarians for the 21st Century Grant, a grant worth over \$600,000, for the Science Links Project to improve science librarianship and to encourage diversity within the profession; and

WHEREAS, William Robinson is a vibrant, contributing member of his profession, participating in numerous worthy organizations, including the Tennessee Library Association (TLA), East Tennessee Library Association (ETLA), Special Library Association (SLA), The American Library Association (ALA), the American Society for Information Science, and the Association of Library and Information Science Education; and

WHEREAS, as a notable member of the Tennessee Library Association, Dr. Robinson has contributed his time and numerous talents as the founder and owner of TLA-L, a Listserv discussion list for TLA members, and lent his efforts as a member of the Program Committee and Legislative Committee; a member of the Editorial Advisory Board; Chair of the Nominating Committee of the Special Libraries section; Editor of *Tennessee Librarian*, the professional journal for TLA; and Chairperson of the Intellectual Freedom Committee, the Education Section, and the Jobline Committee; and

WHEREAS, he has rightfully received many awards and accolades acknowledging his countless contributions to the field of information science, including the UT College of Communication and Information's Outstanding Teaching Award for 2005-2006, the 1999 Frances Neel Cheney Award, the first Outstanding Chapter Member Award of the Southern

Appalachian Chapter of the SLA, and the Berner-Nash Award for Outstanding Doctoral Thesis of the Year of 1974; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Robinson is a thoughtful and insightful scholar who has shared his research with academe and the profession to improve libraries and librarianship via his tenure as an HEA Title II Fellow, an H.W. Wilson Fellow, and a Woodrow Wilson Fellow; his participation in the 1988 Association of Research Libraries Office of Management Institute on Research Libraries for Library and Information Science Faculty; and his election to Beta Phi Mu; and

WHEREAS, William Robinson exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, his many awards and accomplishments aside, William Robinson is most appreciative of the love and support he receives from his wife, Janita Shelton Williams Robinson; his children, Daniel Shelton Robinson, Dr. Megan Janelle Robinson, and Dr. Robert Reif Robinson; and his grandchildren, Olivia Triplett, James Beck Robinson, and Baylor David Robinson; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Dr. Robinson has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues and students alike; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to William C. Robinson our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.